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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Steven S. Bachand) Examiner
 Serial No.: 10/033,259) Unknown
 Filed: 12/28/2001) Group Art
 For: BINDING ASSAY DEVICE WITH)
NON-ABSORBENT CARRIER MATERIAL)

December 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
 DEC 19 2002

Dear Sir:

TECH CENTER 1600/2900
 10/033,259

Please amend the hereinabove reference patent application as follows before examination thereof:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 4, 8, 11, 16-17 and 21-25 as follows:

4. (Amended) The device according to claim 1 wherein the reagent is evaporated from an aqueous buffer solution.

8. (Amended) The device according to claim 6 wherein the reagent is evaporated from an aqueous buffer solution.